

In Depth Planning

MFP

During this MFP process step, extensive information is gathered and structures are put in place to ensure a successful transition to the community with long term community placement as the goal. This is an interactive process that involves the MFP participant, Regional Transition Coordinator (RTC), program staff and, sometimes, an extensive network of individuals, service providers, agencies, landlords, creditors, and others. The length of time of this process step will vary considerably from one participant to the next.

Several key things will happen during this process step. The RTC will help the participant develop a team of providers and supports through the person-centered planning process. Housing needs will be identified and work will begin to secure qualified housing. The RTC will also complete a baseline Quality of Life Survey. Housing resources (tools) and Quality of Life Survey information will be shared below.

Housing Tools

The Regional Transition Coordinator will lead the discussion about a participant's housing needs. A "Housing Questionnaire" is a good tool for starting these conversations. The State Housing Coordinator is also available as a resource in these discussions.

Housing must meet the following specifications to be qualified for MFP:

- Home is owned or leased by a participant or family member;
- Apartment has an individual lease, secure access, as well as living, sleeping, bathing, and cooking areas where a participant or family member has control;
- Community-based residential setting such as a group home that has a maximum of four unrelated people living together (excluding caregivers or personal attendants).

The MFP program must ensure that participants move into a qualified setting, therefore, **a completed "Housing Checklist" must be returned to the State Transition Coordinator prior to the participant's move in.**

For helpful housing resources, see the next section entitled, "MFP Housing Toolkit".

See the Housing Registry for a selection of possible housing opportunities:

<http://mthousingsearch.com/>

Other housing resources include Housing Bridge Assistance and a HUD 811 grant. Information is available upon request.

Quality of Life Surveys

The Money Follows the Person Demonstration Grant requires reporting about the quality of a person's life prior to transitioning (while they are still in an inpatient setting) and again while the person is living in the community. This is accomplished by completing three Quality of Life Surveys at different snapshots in time.

The first survey is administered by the Regional Transition Coordinator **before** the participant moves to the community. Another survey will be administered at approximately 11 months after moving and at 24 months after moving.

See the following section entitled "Quality of Life Survey" for an overview, training manual, interview guidelines, the survey, confidentiality pledge, and how to determine if a proxy is needed.

The RTC who completes the Quality of Life Survey must review the training manual, sign the confidentiality pledge, and return it to the State Transition Coordinator. The original copy of the Quality of Life survey must be returned via mail to ensure strict confidentiality. There is no need to keep a copy of this survey. Mail the completed, original Quality of Life Survey to:

MFP-SLTC
PO Box 4210
Helena, MT 59601

In some circumstances, an agency can bill the MFP program \$100/survey. See "How to Get Paid for a Quality of Life Survey" for more information.